

(3) The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 2304(a)(5)(A) is hereby increased by \$44,650,000.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

DASCHLE AMENDMENT NO. 2729

Mr. DASCHLE proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 2159) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Programs for fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes; as follows: [See text of amendment No. 2714 on pages S6581-S6627 of today's RECORD.]

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a full committee hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, June 25, 1998 at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider the nomination of William L. Massey to be a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Committee.

For further information, please contact Gary Ellsworth of the Committee staff at (202) 224-7141.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, will hold a hearing entitled "The Safety of Food Imports: From the Farm to the Table—A Case Study of Tainted Imported Fruit." This hearing is the second in a series of hearings the Subcommittee has scheduled as part of an in-depth investigation into the safety of food imports. The hearing will be a case study of an outbreak of *Cyclospora* associated with fresh raspberries imported into the United States from Central America. The outbreak of *Cyclospora* occurred in over 20 states across the country in 1996 and in 1997.

This hearing will take place on Thursday, July 9, 1998, at 9:30 a.m., in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact Timothy J. Shea of the Subcommittee staff at 224-3721.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 17, and Thursday, June 18, 1998, to conduct a hearing on H.R. 10, the Financial Services Act of 1998.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Thursday, June 18, 1998 beginning at 10:00 a.m., in room 215 Dirksen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, be authorized to hold an executive business meeting during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 18, 1998, at 10:00 a.m., in room 226, of the Senate Dirksen Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 18, 1998 at 2:00 p.m., in room 226 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building to hold a hearing on "Judicial Nominations."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources and the House Commerce, Subcommittee on Health and Environment be authorized to meet for a hearing on "Putting Patients First: resolving the Allocation of Transplant Organs" during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 18, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 18, 1998, at 10:00 am to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, PROLIFERATION, AND FEDERAL SERVICES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services to meet on Thursday, June 18, 1998 at 2:00 p.m. for a hearing on "The Adequacy of Commerce Department Satellite Export Controls."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on National parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 18, for purposes of conducting a subcommittee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2:00 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 469, a bill to designate a portion of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; S. 1016, a bill to authorize appropriations for the Coastal Heritage Trail Route in New Jersey, and for other purposes; S. 1665, a bill to reauthorize the Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal National Heritage Corridor Act, and for other purposes; S. 2039, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real Tierra Adentro as a National Historic Trail; and H.R. 2186, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance to the National Trails Interpretive Center in Casper, Wyoming.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CAUCUS ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Caucus on International Narcotics Control be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 18 at 2:00 p.m. to receive testimony on the U.S. Efforts in International Demand Reduction Programs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATIONAL INSTANT CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK SYSTEM

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, later this year, under the so-called Brady Law, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) will go into effect. The purpose of NICS is to prevent the purchase of guns by persons who are prohibited from owning firearms.

Pursuant to the Privacy Act of 1974, on June 4, 1998, the United States Department of Justice published in the Federal Register a notice of its intention to establish a new system of records with respect to NICS to be maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

I am particularly concerned about the statement in the Justice Department's June 4 notice that states that "[i]n cases where the NICS background check does not locate a disqualifying record, information about the individual will only be retained temporarily for audit purposes and will be destroyed after eighteen months."

It seems to me, Mr. President, that there is no reason whatever why the